

New York Tribune.

To Last—The Truth—News—Editorials—Advertisements.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1915.

Owned and published daily by The Tribune Association, a New York corporation, Ogden M. Reid, President; G. V. M. Rogers, Secretary and Treasurer. Address: Tribune Building, No. 174 Nassau Street, New York.

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The Nearest Duty.

For the Republican minority in the Senate and the House a single duty outweighs all else. Questions of national defense, of taxation, of all the routine matters of legislation and politics will claim attention in their turn, but at the present hour the problem is not national business, but national honor.

Seven months ago more than one hundred men, women and children were murdered upon the high seas by order of the Imperial German Government. They were murdered while travelling under the protection of international law and with the explicit guarantee of the President of the United States, expressed in a formal communication to the German Government. The murder was indefensible in law, in humanity, in reason. It was a piece of savagery unparalleled in the history of civilized nations.

For this crime the President of the United States demanded of the German Government a disavowal. Six months have passed since the demand was made, and no formal answer has been had, and there is not the smallest prospect that a satisfactory answer ever will be returned. In the mean time the agents of the Imperial German Government in this country, both diplomatic and unofficial, have made this nation the playground of anarchy and the field of violence. In a time of full peace American factories have been burned, American lives have been sacrificed, American laws have been defied. Only recently has there been on the part of the national administration the smallest evidence of a real appreciation of the peril and of the shame which its course has brought upon the American people.

For nearly six months the Wilson administration, influenced by Democratic politicians and terrorized by the threats of hyphenated Americans, has faltered in the face of its duty and confessed itself "too proud to fight" the gravest menace this country has known since the Civil War. Its course has earned the nation contempt abroad; it has shattered the self-respect of Americans at home; it has established in the minds of foreign countries the deadly doctrine that Americans will not protect their fellow citizens, and it has permitted to grow up at home the equally fatal conviction that because of their political power a fraction of the American people, animated by alien sympathies, can violate the laws and take the lives of the citizens of the United States with impunity.

Such pestilential notions must be destroyed. It is the duty of the Republicans in Congress to make plain to the country without delay or equivocation that they place national honor and safety above all political considerations. It will not do to seek by merely negative policies to profit by the mistakes of an administration whose weakness has resulted from a similar lack of courage. It will not do to criticize its failure while shrinking from its failure and clearly outlined purpose.

The temptation of the politicians to profit by the inability of Mr. Wilson to satisfy the German-Americans, the temptation to make the Republican party the beneficiary of hyphenated wrath, will, if it prevails, bring upon the party contempt that will be deserved. Despite all his weakness, his failure and his folly, the people of the United States will still rally to Mr. Wilson next year if at that time it is clear that he is opposed by a united faction of hyphenates, eager to show their political power by punishing the President who was not completely their tool or utterly subservient to their wishes.

There is a single course open to the minority in Congress which is consonant alike with national honor and with the better traditions of the Republican party. For seven months the administration has sacrificed national honor to domestic political considerations. It has permitted our dead to be forgotten while it preserved the empty fiction of friendly relations between their murderers and the American people.

The failure of this policy is now patent

to all. It has earned the contempt of the world; it has provoked the wrath and indignation of Americans; it has failed to satisfy the hyphenates, who believed that by their political influence they could make the American government the cat's-paw of the Kaiser's ministers and Washington a German colony.

If the Republican minority in Congress now attempts to turn to its own advantage Mr. Wilson's failure to enlist German-Americans in the Democratic ranks, if it seeks to turn German-American sentiment to its own end, it will fail, because it is impossible for any party or administration to preserve even the smallest remnant of self-respect and popular approval and also retain the German-American support. But the Republican minority will do more than this; it will confess itself bankrupt in patriotism and honor; it will confess itself a party without purpose or policy, without courage or conviction.

All over this land there are evidences, growing more numerous every day, that the people of the United States demand courage, insist that American lives and American honor shall be protected, whether or not the cost be war. Already there are unmistakable signs that this popular emotion is making itself felt in Washington and is spurring a reluctant administration to a party show of activity. If there is any political advantage to be grasped in the present situation it is only to be grasped by a courageous declaration of position and principle.

The Tribune believes that the Republicans in the Senate and in the House should without delay offer and press for passage a resolution calling upon the President of the United States to suspend all relations, diplomatic and other, with the Imperial German Government until such time as the Lusitania crime is disavowed and the Imperial German Government agrees to send to The Hague the question of indemnity.

Early Christmas Shopping.

However much the public may differ on the question of military preparedness, there are signs in abundance that there is no great difference of opinion on another kind of preparedness—being ready for Christmas. The holiday season is not three weeks away, and already the stores show the annual rush and hustle to buy gifts. It is none too early.

Shopping now will save the customers labor and inconvenience which even the greatest mercantile resources and the finest courtesy cannot prevent later, when the last-minute crush is at hand. Shopping now will ease the burdens of store workers, whose task at the best is hard enough at this time of the year. Procrastination can only bring toil and trouble to those who buy and a weariness of body and spirit to those who sell which do not fit with the spirit of Yuletide. Fortunately, the public is learning this, and, cooperating with the most enlightened merchants is working out a distribution of holiday purchasing over the weeks preceding Christmas, instead of leaving everything until the few days just before the holiday, as was once the general habit.

Yet a repetition of the familiar injunction, "Do your Christmas shopping early," is not amiss. There is unquestionable wisdom, a certain patriotism, in preparedness. Preparedness for the holidays, when it includes the selecting of purchases in ample time to avoid the cruel strain and tension on workers' minds and bodies, is patriotic. No nation is greater than its workers. Consideration for them is real patriotism, and at no time is it more fine, more welcome, than at the season of good will to one's neighbors.

Tuberculosis Week.

Throughout the country this week an organized effort is to be made to whip up the flagging interest of the public in the elimination of tuberculosis. Many pamphlets or leaflets have been prepared for distribution among the people, lectures have been planned and arrangements made for the exhibition of moving pictures illustrating in a lively manner the ravages of the disease and teaching the importance of early diagnosis and timely treatment, as well as the necessity of adequate prophylactic measures.

There can be no doubt that periodical reminders of this kind are desirable. There can be no doubt that the public is thoughtful and very apt to forget good advice. Neither can it possibly be doubted that the enthusiasm so widespread at the outset of the crusade against the Great White Plague is rapidly dwindling. It is not altogether the fault of a forgetful public that this is so. The blame lies largely, if not mainly, on the indiscreet zealots whose fantastic promises and predictions were so widely advertised a few years ago. They underestimated the power of their foe; their promises have not been fulfilled, their promises are not even in a fair way to fulfillment.

It would be idle to pretend that the popular campaign has been strikingly successful; considering the vast sums spent upon it, the results are as yet profoundly disappointing. But the disappointment may be attributed in large measure to the false hopes raised by fantastic orators who foolishly led the public to expect that by the present methods the scourge could be wiped out in a few years.

If the new effort is to be of any real service, it should be free of extravagance and enthusiasm. Much can be done in the way of popular education, but nothing whatever can be gained by filling the

minds of the people with the dreams of false prophets. Let it be frankly acknowledged that the results hitherto achieved are relatively insignificant and present conditions far from satisfactory. Then let us by all means proceed with the educational work, but in a more humble spirit and without too many confident guesses at the future.

The Police Band Plays.

An event which will not be noted in the music reviews of the newspapers, yet which deserves some notice, is the annual concert of the Police Band, to be held on December 8 at Sulzer's Harlem River Park, and to be repeated the following night at Prospect Hall, Brooklyn. The Police Band is an organization not without honor in its own line. It yields much pleasure and entertainment, and this is not confined to department functions, for it gives its services to many charitable affairs each year.

These concerts are held in order to raise funds to keep the band instruments in good condition, to purchase music and to pay the band instructor. It is a worthy purpose. The band deserves and should receive hearty encouragement from the public on these occasions in return for the real help it has given to others.

Still Continuous.

Deliberation will continue to be continuous in a continuous Senate. Rude innovators like Robert L. Owen and "Gum Shoe Bill" Stone have been contending that the upper chamber of Congress is born afresh every two years, instead of tracing an uninterrupted existence back to the shadows of national antiquity. The Senate has up to now been a continuing institution, but to statesmen like Mr. Owen and Mr. Stone the fact that an institution has long been operated on one theory is a *prima facie* argument that it ought to be operated henceforth on an exactly contrary theory.

The Senate will also continue to sustain its renown as "the greatest deliberative body on earth." It is popular to talk closure between sessions, but when the average advocate of parliamentary acceleration actually faces the inhumanity of cutting Senatorial debate short by a dull, mechanical contrivance like the previous question his moral courage weakens. He yields to the majesty of tradition, to the flattering unctious of the conviction that Senators are not as other parliamentarians are, but are set apart as a body whose wisdom can always flow unchecked, until exhausted, for the healing of the nation. Malignant absent treatment is a sufficient remedy in the hands of a majority steering committee which wants to pass a bill, but finds a group of Senators unable to free themselves within six weeks of the thoughts which arise in them on contemplating the evil effects of the bill in question.

The high privileges of free and unlimited oratory have again been honorably vindicated. How such hour-glass defying champions in the arena of deliberation as John T. Morgan and William M. Stewart must have gloated from the walls of Valhalla at the discomfiture of Robert L. Owen and "Gum Shoe Bill" Stone!

Mr. George W. Perkins lectures on "The Value of Publicity." Since he became a Progressive and a political reformer there is no man in the country who has a keener appreciation of its value. He appreciates it well enough to buy it by the page.

After the expenditure of \$27,000,000 in this country, the German government will soon be mistaking the hyphen for the minus sign.

Goethals Says He Will Stop Canal Slides.—Headline.

And yet not even he would attempt to stop the war.

There are some hurdles that even the most abject humility cannot take.

Cash or Honor?

It is becoming more and more evident that the administration has no cause to plume itself upon the great diplomatic triumph with which it has been credited by its admirers. The policy of secrecy which is being pursued at Washington leaves us without any official information as to the nature of the conversations between the German Ambassador and the Secretary of State regarding the sinking of the Lusitania. The report that no apology or disavowal will be forthcoming, but that a money indemnity will be paid, is at least plausible.

By letting the occasion for obtaining prompt reparation pass, by allowing a plain issue to develop into a long and indeterminate controversy, the administration practically encouraged Germany in a course of chicanery and evasion. The superficial settlement of the Arabic case was but a herding drawn across the trail. The more serious grievance remained unaddressed. Nay, German insults and injuries have gone on ever since, while the German Ambassador is permitted to continue to give assurances that the event proves absolutely meaningless. There is not visible the slightest intention to meet the demands so eloquently set forth in the notes to the German government. To do that would involve a humiliation that it is as yet too soon to reason to undergo. The Lusitania was sunk with the applause of the whole German nation. The act was defended boldly and unreluctantly. It cannot be re-nounced now with a complete volte face. Why should Germany, which has shown again and again how little respect she has for the opinion of the civilized world, not defy rhetoric and throw a contemptuous scowl at the United States in the shape of a money payment? A nation that will not enforce its rights cannot expect other nations to respect them. Yet even an administration that has brought us to this pass might hesitate to crown the ignominy by accepting cash for the national honor.

Sex Statistics.

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: Kindly inform me if there are more women than men in the United States, and in what part of the United States there are more women.
S. M. A.
New York, Nov. 30, 1915.
[In the United States, as a whole, the 1910 census gives 106 males to every 100 females. New England is the only part of the country having more women than men, there being 99.3 men to 100 women there. The excess of males is most pronounced in the Far West.]

'AMERICANISM VS. COWARDICE'

Comment Ranging from Delight in Our Phrases to Pure Gratitude.

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: The Tribune's editorial page is even more characteristic than usual this morning. Ranging from the editorial entitled "Americanism vs. Cowardice," through the correspondence to the poem by Joseph Halloran, entitled "How Long?" one encounters the following delightful phrases: "The Lusitania Crime," "Insult to American Honor," "When American men, women and children had been murdered," "The most shameful chapter in American history," "We can put the strangle hold on Germany," "Germany is now waging war upon us," "Punish the murder which they have perpetrated," "This alien viper brood."

How pleasant this is for my own readers who buy your paper, as I do, only to enjoy P. A. J. Perhaps I am wrong in this, but my idea of an editorial is that it should be argumentative, not abusive; reasoning, not vituperative. I would like to answer your "Americanism vs. Cowardice," but there is nothing to answer, no argument to refute. One cannot answer mere abuse or expressions of opinion not based on any tangible facts without going into such detail as to make the letter too long for publication. Your opinions are, in themselves, of no particular consequence to any one, but the unfortunate effect given them by the fact of their conspicuous position on your editorial page is to mislead the unthinking reader who has not the time to investigate or fails to understand that editorial utterances are not gospel. I wasted considerable time some months ago in answering one of your editorials in which you assumed to prove Germany's responsibility for the Lusitania disaster, but my letter was not published. I gather from my observation of your columns that you only publish such letters as praise or coincide with your views, or such of the other sort as can be ridiculed, as was the letter you printed this morning with the caption, "This Editorial Proves Democracy Doomed, Thank God!" Yet in that letter there is not one fact misrepresented. Can that be said of your editorial?

Our "democracy" is, of course, a farce, and our "civilization" a sham. The "Anglo-American traitors" are too rich and too powerful to be exposed by the press. It is not strange, therefore, if they have succeeded in deluding both the administration and that portion of our population which fattens upon their leavings.
J. O. T.
New York, Dec. 2, 1915.

A Decisive Statement.

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: Every true American reader of the editorial "drive you 'put over' this morning," "Americanism versus Cowardice," will be thankful for it. As a decisive statement of your position in regard to the circumstances which the Great War has created in this country and the line of action you would follow, the brief summary you make of the inactivities of President Wilson which make our nation seem so helpless marks it as a climax to a long series of full-page editorials. The President's policy is one of enthusiasm in which the figures 1916 are of enormous size. He persists in dodging the lines of action that the necessity and self-respect of the country dictate. You cannot too bitterly condemn the prevalent spirit of not demanding our rights for which the administration is responsible. Herbert Croly says that an American is nothing if he is not patriotic. This patriotism now looking ahead to the most among men before the war. Editors of this country will help to bring the people into the war.

THEODORE MICHEL.
Brooklyn, Dec. 2, 1915.

Peace—Mr. Wilson's Glory.

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: It is amazing how you can sympathize with the varied patry political attacks, now in the atmosphere, directed against President Wilson and his administration. About the most conspicuous of these is that of ex-President Taft's most recent endeavor to get a wedge in on the Philippine policy. This maneuver of Mr. Taft's is characterized quite accurately and impressively by Secretary Garrison. Unless a newspaper holds itself aloof from petty politics and looks ahead to the future of the nation, and if The Tribune persists in these unworthy efforts to put the "Ins" out and the "Outs" in, as the chills Republicans are more or less actively engaged in, your otherwise interesting paper will fail to resume the position it once held before the country under Horace Greeley. Mr. Wilson has had his hands full all through his three years of expired service—he has made mistakes, as no human judgment is perfect; but had either ex-President Taft or Roosevelt been in his place, we would doubtless either have had war, or things all messed up through Taft's incompetency by this time.

Just to think of it—we the greatest nation on earth at peace with everybody. Wilson has accomplished this. W. E. LETTING.
New York, Dec. 2, 1915.

A Petition to the President.

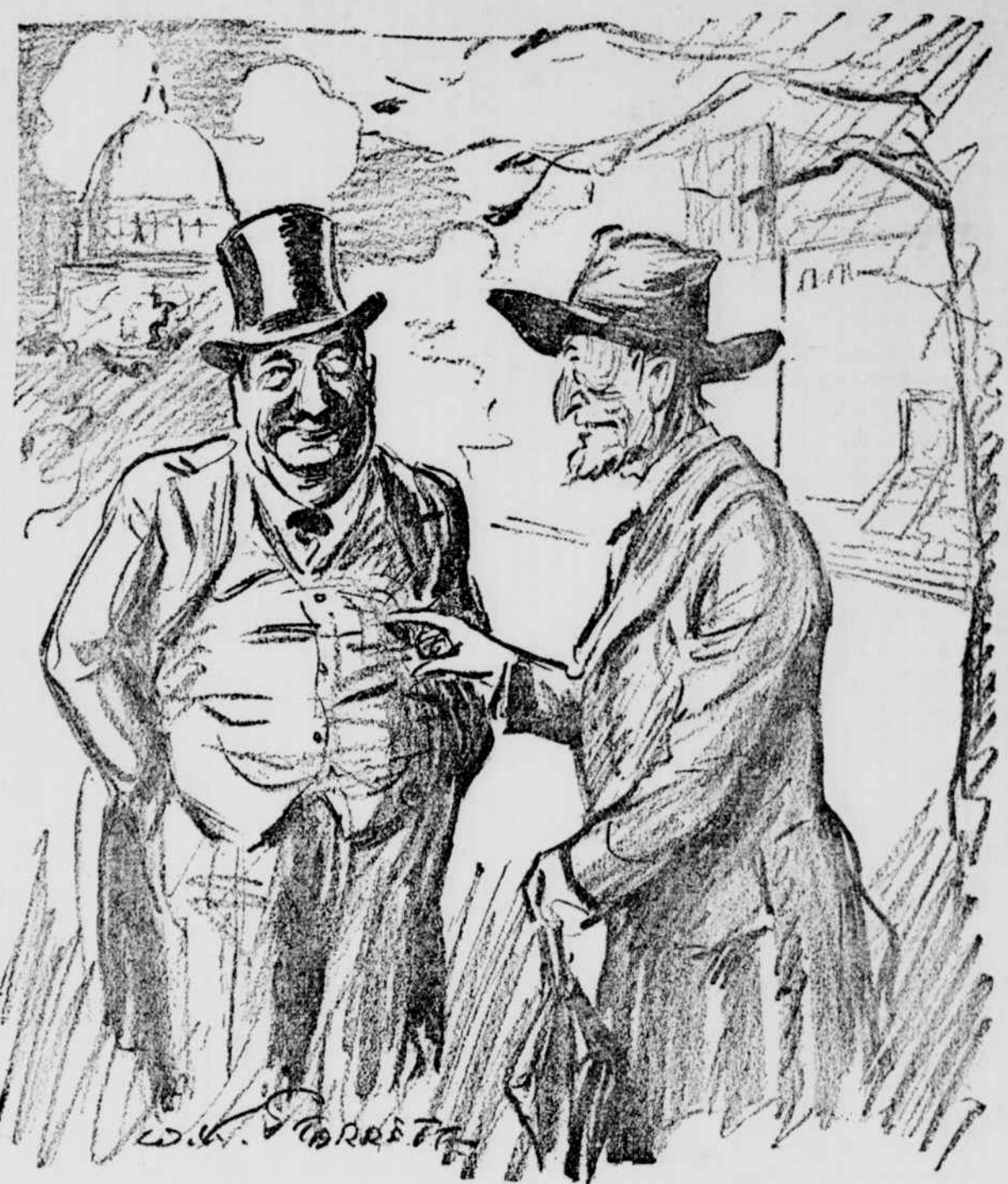
To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: I want to beg that you will give as much publicity as possible to the suggestion made by Erving Winslow, of Boston, for a petition to the President. Can you not continue to print his letter, which may be overlooked by many who have to read the papers in a hurry and search mainly for news?
I have been wishing for a long time that something should be done to reach the ear of the President directly and let him know what so many of us are thinking and feeling in these all-important matters.
LOUISE HENRY.
Moristown, N. J., Nov. 24, 1915.

An Old Reader's Appreciation.

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: Your leading editorial in to-day's Tribune, entitled "Americanism vs. Cowardice," meets my hearty approbation, reminding me of the time when Horace Greeley, an old personal friend of mine, was editor of The Tribune, and would write editorials for his paper of such import, so truthful and so striking. I have been a reader of The Tribune since its first publication, and have found copies from 1851 to 1856, which include the Fremont campaign entire; also the 1859 copies treating of the John Brown episode, his trial and execution. Can you wonder that I appreciate such an editorial?
EDWIN A. STODWELL.
South Salem, N. Y., Dec. 2, 1915.

Gratitude.

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: In common with countless other Americans, I feel a debt of gratitude to you for the fearless and unequivocal editorials which express in so masterly a manner the deep and burning sense of wrong which we all feel for the many infamous acts of Germany during the progress of the present war.
MARTHA DAVIS.
San Diego, Cal., Nov. 26, 1915.



Congressman—"No, sire! No battleships! There ain't no shipyards in my district."

DRIED VEGETABLES AN AID TO GERMANY

A Great Economy Results from Desiccating Potatoes Before They Are Shipped to the Armies at the Front—Imitating a Successful American Process.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: To-day's speech of President Dr. Kaempf at the opening of the Reichstag, in which he spoke frankly of the German food problem, and said, "Potatoes, the most important food of the people, are abundant," calls attention to an industry which has developed enormously in Germany since the beginning of the war, and to a lesser extent in this country. The German army commissariat has saved the hauling of thousands of tons of water by the use of dry, fresh vegetables and fruit from which practically all the water has been removed.

This is a product which not only saves an incalculable amount of transportation, but it is one of the health measures of the sanitary department, and it is an important means of conservation, now that Germany is hard pressed for food. The vegetables thus prepared lose but little color, odor, taste or nutritive value, and they can be kept almost indefinitely. With the elimination of nearly all the water content, the weight of the product is reduced from 50 to 90 per cent.

It is a product which the German armies at the front do not have to sidetrack munition trains in order to save perishable green vegetables. Right here in New York other freight and even passenger trains are held up in favor of trains carrying perishable produce. Even so, the problem of provisioning New York without wastage has not been completely solved, since carloads of green produce have frequently spoiled in their terminals and have been condemned and dumped into the bay.

The German product is not quite equal to that which is now being prepared in this country, since the German method seems to be a partial cooking, which destroys some of the food value. But one pound of Julius soup vegetables as produced in this country will make soup for sixty-four men, and it is fair to assume that approximately the same proportion holds in Germany. The vegetables used in this compound are potatoes, carrots, turnips, cabbages, onions, parsley and celery.

From 80 to 85 per cent of the water is taken from all the vegetables treated by this process. One pound of dry fresh potatoes so prepared is equal to six and a half pounds of the raw or green potatoes; one pound of onions represents twelve pounds of green onions; one pound of beans is the equivalent of fourteen pounds of green beans; a pound of beets equals fifteen pounds of green beets, and a pound of cabbage equals fifteen pounds of green cabbage. The list could be prolonged indefinitely. Before cooking the vegetables are soaked for a few minutes in water, and then they are cooked just like any other vegetables. After cooking, these dry, fresh processed vegetables resume their original color, odor, shape and taste.

The saving in transportation is obvious. The ratio of the weight of the dried soup vegetable product to the green stuff is as about one to fifteen. Much canned food is naturally being supplied to the European armies. In the transportation of canned goods for every two pounds of cans hauled to destination less than one pound of food is delivered. One car of dried product, averaging all kinds, is equal to about twelve carloads of green stuff. This means a reduction in this particular freight of about 90 per cent, fewer car movements and more mobility. This is what the Germans gain by its use.

The two greatest producers of dry fresh vegetables in Germany are Knorr & Co. and Otto & Kaiser, both with principal offices and factories at Helldorf, and with other factories elsewhere in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. According to our consular reports, there were 327 such factories in Germany in 1911. On April 23 of this year it was reported that "500 potato-drying mills have been established in Germany during the last ten months, their number since 1904 having grown 80 per cent." On September 9 our consul at Frankfurt-on-the-Main wrote that "during the war much attention has been

devoted to potato drying, and with the assistance of the government 240 new plants have been established in Germany," and that the establishment of plants for drying other vegetables was reported.

Germany publicly claims to have had a potato crop last year which amounted to 1,800,000,000 bushels, but the drying of sliced or cut vegetables by special processes is by no means confined to potatoes. Special stress is laid on them in the German reports, since the potato cannot be stored and carried over from one year to another, as is the case with grains. Moreover, the fact that they are easily frozen, and once frozen are ruined, made the problem of conservation a serious one in Germany. As the water is almost entirely removed from the dried fresh product, it will not freeze, and will, therefore, be especially useful in the winter campaigns.

I want to call your attention to one statistical fact, which bears out the assumption that Germany was preparing for war long before it broke out. The value of our exports to Germany in 1913 was \$331,684,212. In 1914 it was \$344,794,276, an increase of \$13,110,064, which means practically all have been exported in the first seven months of the war. The exports consisted largely of foodstuffs.

Friends of preparedness in this country will be glad to hear that the process of removing water from fruits and vegetables has reached its highest development in the United States, and that the local product has been tested out not only by the Army and Navy departments, but by the New York National Guard. Attempts have been made to dry vegetables successfully in evaporators, but the results have always been unsatisfactory. The solution of the problem was found in drying the products at such low temperatures as not to destroy any of their original qualities.

In 1912 official tests of these products were made by the navy, and they were recommended in preference to any such products heretofore used or tested by the navy. The report of the Quartermaster General of the United States Army for 1914 said, in part: "After cooking the fresh product, and also as to taste and quality. This new form of treating vegetables makes them somewhat like the old desiccated vegetables in use in the army in previous years, but superior in quality and flavor. The saving in transportation in shipment of these vegetables for a large command would be enormous."

It is comforting to know that all these branches of our national defense—the army, the national guard (at the school of application at Peekskill) and the navy—are alive to the new possibilities revealed by Germany for their commissariats. The latter branch would be likely to find this product especially useful if it had to undertake any long voyage like that of the British fleet in the North Sea. Fresh vegetables, and especially onions, are the specific against the scurvy, which is apt to attack the sailor long at sea. I have not heard that the German navy has had any immediate use for these dry fresh products.

ROY MASON.
New York, Dec. 1, 1915.

In Praise of Free Lunches.

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: I am a newspaper man and literary worker, at present without a regular position. The necessity of reducing living expenses has made me change my opinion about free lunches in saloons.
Daily I call at a number of offices looking for work. When lunch time comes, experience has taught me—and many others—that the cheapest lunch available is to be had at the free counters in saloons. By buying one or two drinks (not necessarily beer) a man with moderate appetite may help himself to enough food to satisfy him until supper time. I have often observed that men apparently out of work help themselves to free lunches without buying drinks.
The abolition of the free lunch, which temperance people endeavor to bring about, would work hardship to many men out of work.
GRAND PIERRE.
Whitestone, N. Y., Nov. 27, 1915.

WITH OUR EYES OPEN.

[From the New York World.]
Our neighbor The Tribune submits two questions to "The World" which "The World" takes pleasure in answering frankly:

Recalling the Strict Accountability note, recalling the note of July 12, taking into consideration the fact that that note has never been answered and there is no apparent hope of obtaining a disavowal of the Lusitania crime, does "The World" believe the United States should continue indefinitely to maintain friendly relations with Germany?

Does it believe that the possibility that breaking off relations might mean war should operate to prevent the cessation of diplomatic relations until such time as the Lusitania crime is disavowed?

"The World" does not believe that the United States should continue "indefinitely" to maintain friendly relations with Germany should it become apparent that there is no hope of obtaining a disavowal of the Lusitania massacre. "The World" does believe that diplomatic relations with Germany should be maintained as long as reasonable hope exists for a friendly and honorable settlement.

As to the second question, if circumstances call for the severance of diplomatic relations the United States should and must face the full consequences of such action. Those consequences are war.

To sever diplomatic relations is to abandon the only method by which a disavowal of the Lusitania crime can be obtained. Once we have taken that step we must be ready to take the next and final step, with all that it implies.

The main thing is that whatever we do we must have a clear and definite understanding of what we are doing. It is no time to try to trick the American people into setting forth upon a line of policy whose probable outcome is not made plain to them in advance. It is no time for experimental leaps in the dark.

"The World's" attitude in this matter is well stated in a letter which the late Paul Fuller wrote last month to Erving Winslow, of Boston, and which we print by courtesy of Mr. Winslow:

I am at one with you in the hope (to which I add the confident expectation) that the Lusitania incident is not closed and that some further degree of satisfaction will be exacted of Germany beyond the disavowal and regret expressed by that government with reference to the Arabic, which involved the same issue.
The situation of a private citizen, who has little responsibility save the reproach of his own conscience, is vastly different from that of the official, representing a whole nation, must, as a consequence, subordinate his individual views to the public opinion of the country. I feel that public opinion which I should like to influence, or see influenced, in such a manner that it could be a guide for our public servants and a promise of improvement of their action.

The fundamental mistake made by critics like Mr. Roosevelt and The Tribune is that they think the issue of war or peace is or ought to be in the hands of a President responsible only to himself. God forbid that that day should ever come! Even the German Emperor pretends to exercise no such power as many of the President's political opponents have assailed him for refusing to usurp.

The question of continuing diplomatic relations with Germany is at present a question of fact and of judgment, not of principle. Does the possibility still remain of obtaining a disavowal and reparation for the Lusitania massacre? If it does, how much time ought the United States to give Germany to meet the demands made by the President? To negotiate at all implies an obligation to keep on negotiating while a reasonable hope exists for a successful settlement of the great issue in dispute.

This does not mean that we must negotiate forever. It does not mean that we must continue the negotiations without substantial grounds for believing that Germany is acting in good faith in professing to desire a friendly settlement on terms consistent with American honor. The day may come when Congress may properly ask for the deliberate and solemn judgment of the President of the United States on the status of our relations with Germany. But, whatever we do, let us do it with our eyes open. It is no time for bluster. It is no time to bluff.